

Indiana Health Informatics Corporation (IHIC)

April 10, 2008

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Mitch Roob called the meeting to order.

The following members were present:

Mitch Roob

Linda Chezem

Jim Edlund

Judy Monroe

Stan Crosley

J. Marc Overhage

Mitch Roob introduced consultant Jay McCutcheon as the facilitator for the meeting and explained the goals for the advancement and discussion of planning for IHIC. Sec. Roob further explained that Mr. McCutcheon, along with Emily Welebob and John Kansky of the Indiana Health Information Exchange, had been retained to assist with IHIC staff support and planning.

Mr. McCutcheon led a review of the agenda, meeting goals, and the process that would be followed during the discussion leading to IHIC determining its role or roles and initial priorities. Mr. McCutcheon went on to define several key terms that would be useful if consistently applied throughout the day. These included regional health information organization, health information exchange, and health information technology. He reviewed, for the group, the benefits and purpose of HIE as an introduction to the planning discussion.

Ms. Welebob and Mr. Kansky presented an overview of an Environmental Scan document that had been prepared and distributed to the board. The Environmental Scan covered state-level HIE activity, Indiana's current HIE-related assets, and HIE in the context of economic development.

Mr. McCutcheon then reviewed the vision, goals, guiding principles, and recommendations contained in the November 2, 2006 report of the Medical Informatics Commission (MIC). Given that the MIC was the predecessor to the IHIC, he offered that the MIC report represented an appropriate starting point for IHIC's planning discussion.

Mr. McCutcheon then led a discussion of IHIC's potential future roles and priorities in which all board members participated. The discussion included the real and perceived value of HIE and electronic medical records and the challenges created by misaligned incentives. Sec. Roob questioned what volume of data might be necessary to represent value to various stakeholders. In response, Dr. Overhage explained the hypothetical data volumes necessary to be of value under a variety of different scenarios. The board also discussed their views on the need for privacy and confidentiality and the work being done in this area at a federal level.

Mr. McCutcheon then led a discussion of how best to expand HIE services statewide. Both spawning new HIEs and leveraging existing HIEs was considered and the group came to consensus on the idea that leveraging the existing HIEs in Indiana was the best and most direct approach. The board then discussed a number of potential roles for IHIC, the need to get the existing HIEs involved in planning, and educational topics for future board meetings.

A discussion of next steps occurred and Dr. Wells reminded the group that the next step was for all board members to be interviewed to delve more deeply into the issues raised during the day's discussion. The potential for postponing the scheduled May 8th board meeting was discussed to allow for more time to interview the board and advance other planning activities, but the board decided it was best to keep the meeting as scheduled so the planning for IHIC could continue moving forward as aggressively as possible.

Mr. Roob adjourned the meeting.